

VIA: AIR
(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

DISPATCH NO. SGAA-1372

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CLASSIFICATION

JAN 2 1955

TO : Chief, SE

DATE: _____

Attn: C

FROM : C

SUBJECT: GENERAL— OBHUNT/FRIDAY

SPECIFIC— FRIDAY Mission Progress Report
28 December 1954 - 14 January 1955

REF: SGAA 13519, 10 January 1955

Action Requested: None. For Headquarters' information and files.

Synopsis:

- December penetration briefing was forwarded in SGAA-13684, 20 January
- December penetration debriefing was forwarded in SGAA 13562, 12 January 1955.
- RNDOLLAR was ICFLUTTERED by Neabon whose report will be forwarded separately.

Account of Developments:

January 10:

1. RNDOLLAR reported to the Dig safehouse.

January 11:

2. C C C and C C interrogated RNDOLLAR on questions arising from the debriefing. The substance of this interview is recorded in enclosure 1.

3. Late in the afternoon, C C ran his first series of ICFLUTTER tests on RNDOLLAR with C C interpreting. RNDOLLAR's attitude was sullen and he disrupted the tests to some extent by coughing and tensing.

January 12:

4. C C announced his intention to re-ICFLUTTER RNDOLLAR in an effort to obtain more decisive results. The second test could not be scheduled until 14 January.

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CS Classification: *none*

JOB # *63-697/78*

Box: *7* Fold: *#1*

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5. RNDOLLAR was released from the Dig to go to a Phaleron hotel to await his second LCFLUTTER.

January 14:

6. RNDOLLAR reported to the Dig and was interviewed by [] and []. The purpose of this meeting was to persuade RNDOLLAR to cooperate on the LCFLUTTER and to elicit more facts from him on the development of the operation. A memorandum of this conversation is forwarded as enclosure 2.

7. [] re-LCFLUTTERED RNDOLLAR, with [] assistance, and obtained generally more favorable results. His report of these tests is in preparation.

Comment:

8. This dispatch plus the referenced progress report and the briefing and debriefing referred to in the synopsis, present recent FRIDAY Mission developments pertinent to a re-analysis of this operation. Field analysis and recommendations will be forwarded promptly.

Attachments:

- 1 - Memo on interview 11/1/55
- 2 - Memo on interview 14/1/55

DLA/RMW/RSO/JLK/nkr

19 January 1955

Distribution:

- 3 - Wash w/atts in trip
- 1 - Chrono w/atts
- 1 - XO w/atts
- 2 - OBOPUS w/atts in dupl. (1 ret.)

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Attachment 1 to:

SGAA **13721**

Dated

JAN 21 1955

MEMORANDUM

11 January 1955

FOR: FRIDAY Mission File

FROM: *[initials]*

SUBJECT: Interview with RNDOLLAR this Date

1. After a study of the preliminary debriefing, several questions occurred to us which were put to RNDOLLAR during this interview. The questions and the answers we received are recorded below.

a. Miscellaneous questions:

1. Q. Was your sister-in-law instructed to service the dead drop?

A. No. Although she knew about the mechanics of the drop because she had been present at the briefing of ALPIGEON, she was not present when the d/d point was selected. It is likely, however, that ALPIGEON has since shown my sister-in-law the location of the drop.

2. Q. Why did you want to see your brother this time?

A. To be more certain that the job had been properly done. To get fresher intelligence than could be expected in the drop. To see how the family was faring.

3. Q. Did you believe you could get all the way to your brother's house and out again safely at this time of year?

A. I appreciated the great danger but was willing to take the risk to insure that all was proceeding according to plan and that the honor of the family was therefore intact.

4. Q. Had you anticipated going to the p/a's house on the December mission before you had been briefed to the contrary?

A. Yes for the reasons stated above.

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5. Q. Why did you give the d/d can to your brother during the first meeting you had with him in July?
- A. To lighten my load and to give the p/a a chance to look it over and see how it worked.
6. Q. Why didn't the p/a bring the can with him to the second rendezvous?
- A. I expected him to bring the can. When I asked him where it was, he said he had not brought it because the drop point had not yet been established.
7. Q. Did you specifically tell him to bring the can to the second meeting?
- A. No.
8. Q. Does AIRBLOWN know who the p/a is?
- A. I have referred to him only as my friend.
9. Q. Did you discuss the July mission with AIRBLOWN?
- A. Yes, I told him I had been in the area twice before.
10. Q. Do you believe that if AIRBLOWN were to be captured he would know enough about the operation to blow your family?
- A. There are very few nationalists in the area at this time. My family would be implicated in the operation by the process of elimination.
- b. Questions pertaining to the dead drop:
11. Q. Are you sure of the precise location of the d/d?
- A. 100% sure. Even AIRBLOWN could locate it now.
12. Q. How close to the bush did you go with the p/a when the selection was made?
- A. Close enough to touch it.

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13. Q. If there was no question in your mind as to the location of the d/d, why did you search in the surrounding bushes as well?
- A. To be 100% sure that the p/a had not, for some unknown reason, placed the can in an adjacent bush.
14. Q. Are you convinced that the p/a understood the significance of the d/d procedure?
- A. Yes, because of his previous experience with clandestine activities, because it was to his advantage to make it work and so avoid more meetings and because the instructions were all written down for him.
- ✓ 15. Q. With reference to the safety/danger signal, what does one stone on top of another signify?
- A. That the can is in place.
- ✓ 16. Q. With reference to the safety/danger signal, what does it mean when the stones are spread?
- A. That the can may or may not be present but that there is nothing in it.
17. Q. What did you tell your brother to do with the can?
- A. I told him to put it in the drop on the following day and leave it there.
- ✓ 18. Q. (Repetition of question 15)
- A. That the can is present and that it is safe to service it.
- ✓ 19. Q. (Repetition of question 16)
- A. That the drop has not been serviced, or that it is controlled by the Sigurimi.
20. Q. If the briefing had been followed and nothing had gone wrong, is there any reason you can think of why the can should not be in the drop?
- A. None that I know of.

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21. Q. If there is no reason why the can should not be in the drop, why did you just say (in answer to question 16) that spread stones indicated that the can may or may not be present?

A. The spread stones mean that the can has been controlled and therefore may or may not be present.

22. Q. Did the p/a agree to leave the can in the drop at all times?

A. Yes.

23. Q. Can you think of any reason why the p/a would not have placed the can or removed it once having placed it?

A. I have no idea. I would conjecture, without basis, that he might have been trying to indicate that he wanted me to visit the house.

24. Q. Was there any indication at the d/d or the safety/danger signal that the p/a had been there?

A. None were visible in the dark.

25. Q. Were the stones in the same place as they had been in July or had they been moved?

A. It is impossible for me to be sure after six months but I think they had been moved.

26. Q. How far is the safety/danger signal from the dead drop?

A. I would estimate 50 meters. Absolutely no less than 30.

c. Questions pertaining to the 25 May meeting:

27. Q. When you arranged with the p/a for a rendezvous next May, what exactly did you agree upon?

A. At our second meeting, the p/a suggested that we get together in the spring and discuss the mission further. He suggested the 25th of May at any time after 2200 hrs in the vicinity of Qaf E Hanit. He said he would be singing the "Oh Saba Saba" song as a recognition signal.

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28. Why did you make these arrangements?

A. I agreed to the arrangements because I wanted to keep the p/a happy and because I wanted to see him again to discuss the lot of my family. I thought that if this rendezvous did not work out, I could put a note in the can to the effect that the meeting was impossible.

29. Q. Do you think the p/a could have gotten the impression that you would not be back until spring?

A. No. Furthermore, it was clearly understood that the primary means of communication was to be through the d/d, not through personal contact.

30. Q. Why didn't you tell us about this rendezvous plan during the debriefing after your July trip?

A. Because it did not occur to me. I did not attach any particular significance to it.

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Attachment 2 to:

SGAA-13721

Dated

JAN. 21 1955

MEMORANDUM

14 January 1955

FOR: FRIDAY Mission File

FROM: []

SUBJECT: Interview with RNDOLLAR this date.

1. The following conversation was held with RNDOLLAR before his second LOFTUTTER session on the 14th of January. Linaugh interpreted.

2. I opened the meeting by reaffirming to RNDOLLAR that we had no question about the sincerity of RNDOLLAR's efforts to succeed in his mission. I went on to say that my interest in RNDOLLAR from this time forward was solely one of friendship because I was soon to be reassigned. I told RNDOLLAR that I had some friendly advice for him that I hoped he would accept at face value. The advice proffered was as follows:

a. He should know that, upon the liberation of Albania from the communists, the records of his missions on our behalf would certainly be turned over to the nationalist government. His attitude and performance in the present could therefore make the difference to him between being a national hero and a nice boy who didn't have the stuff to make the grade. (This note was struck because the maintenance of family honor is very important to RNDOLLAR and because we feel that he is the type of man who would strive to become a leader in his area.)

b. Given that his record will someday be made public, it would behoove him not to make any rash decisions that would mar this record. I then took up as an example his sullen and intransigent attitude toward the LOFTUTTER examinations. I explained that he had to differentiate between those of us who were working with him to make his mission a success and the people who were solely interested in the security aspects of operations. He would have to realize that they were not familiar with him as an individual nor with the Albanian mentality. Their position was that if a man had nothing to hide he had no reason to be uncooperative. They were not sympathetic with our explanations about the offensiveness of the test to the Albanian sense of honor because they argued that any man who was intelligent enough to be picked

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as an agent should be intelligent enough to understand the necessity of this method of checking on the sincerity of agents. I told him that if he persisted in his attitude toward the test it would not only make it more difficult for him and for us, but that his attitude would have to be recorded in his files. For these reasons I asked RNDOLLAR to cooperate during the tests that would be conducted later in the day.

3. In response to these comments, RNDOLLAR stated that he was resigned to the tests and that he had come to regard them as something of a bad habit like smoking. He foresaw the time when he would ask to be ECCLUTTERED after each statement he made so that he could be sure that we believed him. He further stated that he had no complaint about the treatment he was receiving from us. If our places were reversed, said RNDOLLAR, he was sure that he would use even more extreme measures to insure that he was getting a straight story from his agents.

4. Our conversation then returned to the subject of RNDOLLAR's last penetration. I told him that we had been engaged in a close analysis of the events that had taken place to date in an effort to arrive at possible reasons for the absence of the can. We were first eliminating those hypotheses that could be disproven. In this study, we needed his full cooperation. I told him that there were still some questions that we were not clear on.

5. In the first place, I was interested in exploring the subject of his arrangements with AIPIGEON for a rendezvous. To begin with, I read him the following excerpt from [] debriefing of the July penetration (enclosure 1 to SGAA 11239 KAPOK 2775, page 6 para 34 f): "The team did not set up a recognition signal to serve as a notice of the presence of agents in the country, because AIPIGEON is averse to the idea of making personal contacts. In lieu of this it was agreed that if the team returns for contact, a brief coded message will be placed in the dead drop. Subsequently, the team will establish itself in a hideout on Saraqin. For the following two nights the team will expect to make contact on the Konispol-Delvine road and in case of a failure, the third night AIPIGEON will be contacted at his house." RNDOLLAR agreed that the quotation was substantially correct.

6. I then quoted his statement in the debriefing of the December penetration that a rendezvous for the 25th of May 1955 had been agreed upon between AIPIGEON and RNDOLLAR. (SGAA 13562, 12 January 1955, para 3.) I suggested to RNDOLLAR that there seemed to be some conflict between these two accounts and asked him

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if he could clarify the point for us. RNDOLLAR replied that both statements were true. He said that when he met his brother for the second time in July he instructed him on the use of the dead drop. At that time, he told AIPIGEON that when he returned he would notify AIPIGEON by placing a message in the drop. AIPIGEON would then be sure to be walking along the road at night as he had for the rendezvous they had just made. At the conclusion of this briefing, AIPIGEON suggested to RNDOLLAR that they make a date for a meeting in the spring so that they could discuss in person the developments of the mission and confirm plans for future activities. RNDOLLAR states he agreed to this meeting as he did not want to discourage his brother. He pointed out that his brother's objection to another personal meeting was limited to another meeting in his house. RNDOLLAR felt that he would probably be infiltrating to service the drop two or three times before the date scheduled for this meeting and that he could cancel it with a note in the dead drop if necessary. RNDOLLAR emphasized that this meeting plan was made casually at AIPIGEON's request and that he attached no importance to it. He admits that he should have revealed it to us during the debriefing and cannot explain this lapse other than to say that it slipped his mind.

7. I next told RNDOLLAR that I had a question I would like him to answer as carefully and thoroughly as he could because his answer might help to explain our failure to date. The Question was: Do you think your brother could possibly have gotten the impression that you would not be returning to the area until May of 1955? RNDOLLAR answered that he was positive this could not be the case. He never said anything that could possibly have given this impression because he was of the belief that he would be making periodic trips to the drop from December on.

8. At this point I told RNDOLLAR that, on the basis of what he had told us, we had narrowed the possible explanations for the absence of the can down to three:

- a. AIPIGEON had been imprisoned or was dead.
- b. AIPIGEON had decided not to place the can in the drop after RNDOLLAR's departure for reasons unknown to us.
- c. AIPIGEON had not understood the d/d mechanics properly.

RNDOLLAR immediately insisted that the third hypothesis was impossible. He had gone over the briefing with AIPIGEON very carefully at the site of the dead drop and he had left AIPIGEON written instructions on the subject. He agreed that the first and second hypotheses were possible and could not think of any others.

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9. I told RNDOLLAR that I considered all the available facts to be at hand and that, in my opinion, they justified another attempt to contact ALPIGEON. I stated that I would make a recommendation to this effect if we still had the capability to execute. This capability depended on RNDOLLAR's willingness to infiltrate once more as he is the only man available who has ALPIGEON's confidence. RNDOLLAR answered that he was very tired of the lonely and restrictive life he had been forced to lead and the strain of the job itself. On the other hand, he was convinced that the mission could be a profitable one and he would therefore agree to making one more attempt for us if we so desired.

10. The interview ended with this commitment, which we adjudge to be a sincere one. RNDOLLAR's demeanor during this interview lacked the frequently present air of supersiliousness. He gave ☐ and ☐ the impression of having been sobered by the advice we gave him at the beginning of the interview and that his stated desire to succeed in his effort was genuine.

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